

CLAIMS

1. A super absorbent polymer coated with a substantially impervious coating.
- 5 2. A super absorbent polymer according to claim 1, wherein said substantially impervious coating is degraded to render it permeable.
3. An absorbent material including a super absorbent polymer coated with a substantially impervious coating.
- 10 4. An absorbent material according to claim 3, wherein said substantially impervious coating is degraded to render it permeable.
- 15 5. An absorbent material according to claim 3, wherein said absorbent material is formed in a first shape and said degraded substantially impervious coating is degraded so as to define a second shape within said first shape.
6. An absorbent material according to claim 3, wherein it additionally comprises non-woven fibres.
- 20 7. An absorbent material according to claim 6, wherein said non-woven fibres comprise paper or board fibres.
8. A method for making an absorbent material comprising incorporating in a first material a super absorbent polymer coated with a substantially impervious coating, and treating said substantially impervious coating to degrade it and render it permeable.
- 25 9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said absorbent material is made by a wet process.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said absorbent material is a wet laid web.

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said absorbent material is selected from one of the group consisting of paper and board.

12. A method according to claim 8, wherein said super absorbent polymer is crushed to degrade said substantially impervious coating.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein crushing takes place in a drying stage of a wet process.

14. A method according to claim 8, wherein said substantially impervious coating is degraded by a method selected from any of the group consisting of: heating, the application of ultrasound, and the application of electromagnetic radiation.

15. A method according to claim 8, wherein said absorbent material is made in a first shape, said degradation step to render said substantially impervious coating permeable only being performed on a part of said first shape so as to define a second shape within said first shape.

16. A super absorbent polymer according to claim 1, wherein said super absorbent polymer is in particulate form.

17. An absorbent material according to claim 3, wherein said super absorbent polymer is in particulate form.

18. A method according to claim 8, wherein said super absorbent polymer is in particulate form.